

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EUR-12

CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /071 W

-----270844Z 075666 /20

O 270810Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4199

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL SEOUL 4490

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, PINT KS

SUBJ: UNDER SECRETARY HABIB RECEIVES CONSERVATIVE KOREAN  
CHRISTIANS

REF: SEOUL 4456

1. IN ADDITION TO MEETINGS REPORTED REFTEL, ON MAY 26  
UNDER SECRETARY HABIB ALSO RECEIVED A DELEGATION OF LEADERS  
OF THE KOREAN CHRISTIAN AD HOC POLICY COMMITTEE. THE  
COMMITTEE IS MADE UP OF MORE CONSERVATIVE PROTESTANT CHURCHES,  
INCLUDING SOME PARISHES OF CHURCHES WHICH ARE ATTACHED TO  
THE KNCC. DELEGATION CONSISTED OF REVS. KANG SHIM-MYUNG,  
JI WON-SANG, AND HAN YUNG-CHUL.

2. THE DELEGATION EXPRESSED GRAVE CONCERN OVER PROSPECTS  
FOR KOREA'S SECURITY IF U.S. TROOPS WERE WITHDRAWN. THE  
UNDER SECRETARY NOTED THAT U.S. TROOPS HAD BEEN IN KOREA  
FOR ABOUT 25 YEARS AND THAT NO ONE EXPECTED THAT THEY WOULD  
REMAIN FOREVER. GROUND FORCES WOULD BE WITHDRAWN GRADUALLY  
WHILE KOREAN FORCES, WHICH ARE ALREADY STRONG, WOULD BE  
ASSISTED TO BECOME EVEN STRONGER. THE U.S. AIR FORCE WOULD  
REMAIN AND TOGETHER WITH KOREAN FORCES WOULD CONTINUE TO  
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CONSTITUTE A FORMIDABLE DETERRENT TO POTENTIAL AGGRESSION.  
IN ADDITION, THE UNDER SECRETARY POINTED OUT THAT THE U.S.  
COMMITMENT TO KOREAN SECURITY HAD BEEN REAFFIRMED BY THE  
CARTER ADMINISTRATION.

3. THE PASTORS EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE WITHDRAWAL MIGHT  
HAVE AN ADVERSE PSYCHOLOGICAL AFFECT ON THE KOREAN PUBLIC.

THE UNDER SECRETARY REPLIED THAT THE U.S. HAD CONFIDENCE IN KOREA'S ABILITY TO FULLY MEET THE ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES THE WITHDRAWAL OF GROUND FORCES MIGHT POSE, AND ADDED THAT THE KOREANS SHOULD HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THEMSELVES - ESPECIALLY IN VIEW OF THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS.

4. THE PASTORS THNKEDE THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR SQUEEZING THEM IN HIS HEAVY SCHEDULE AND FOR GIVING THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH HIM.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RELIGIOUS LEADERS, TROOP REDUCTIONS  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**TAGS:** SHUM, PINT, MARR, KS, US, (HABIB, PHILIP C)  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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